

your late hours, thank you for your hard work, thank you for putting up with me, and thank you for your dedication, not just to the folks of the 23rd Congressional District of Texas, but to the entire American family.

It has been a distinct privilege to stand on this floor for the past 6 years to debate issues and represent the people of the 23rd Congressional District. Thank you for putting your faith and trust in me.

Serving as a Member of Congress has not only taught me about this incredible institution and how to legislate; it has proven a long-held belief that way more unites us as a country than divides us.

My final message for my colleagues, as I depart this body: Don't treat bipartisanship like a four-letter word. The only way big things have ever been done in this country is by doing them together.

#### HONORING RETIRING SENATOR PAT ROBERTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, this month, after 40 years of service as a Member of Congress, our senior Senator of Kansas will be moving his belongings out of his office in the Hart Senate Office Building to a private library.

To best honor him, I would like to share some of his original wit, some of the quips for which he is most famous. Number one:

Take your job seriously, but not yourself.

There are no self-made men or women in public service. It is your family, friends, and staff who have made you what you are.

Another couple of favorites:

You are only as good as your staff.

It isn't the best possible bill; it is the best bill possible.

In reference to an opponent who sometimes disagrees with you, he suggested:

Go smother them with the milk of human kindness.

On his commitment to agriculture, he said:

We live in a troubled and hungry world.

Food security is national security.

When asked about why we need agriculture programs, the Senator once said:

You can't eat a shoe.

On life, when asked about making a mistake, he suggested that:

You go hunker down and take it like a donkey in a hailstorm.

He once said:

Remember, when you roll around with pigs, you both get dirty, but only one of you enjoys it.

On sports, at football games, he often said:

Throw the ball to the tight end. He was wide open.

And, of course, as we all know, the Senator was the unofficial tight end

coach for the ever-optimistic and fighting Kansas State Wildcats.

At a townhall, when a rabid constituent gave a forceful opposing opinion, he once replied:

I'll mark you down as undecided.

I loved when he referred to Kansas University as that school over by Baker.

The Senator, once a marine, was always a marine. He was often quoted saying "take the hill" and "semper fi."

But my personal favorite:

There are lots of cactuses in the world, but you don't have to go sit on every one.

When I first meet successful, influential people, people who I have read about or know of, I have often asked myself: Is there any substance to this person? Is there character and integrity? What is truly important to them?

I would like to share, as we have gotten to know Senator ROBERTS and his wife, Franki, I have found that their footprints are larger than their shadows, their hearts are bigger than their words, their love of this country, their love of Kansas, more than any words I can find to describe.

Personally, I cannot imagine any memory of Senator ROBERTS without thinking of his bride, his South Carolina magnolia blossom, as he often called her, whom he married some 51 years ago. She is absolutely his rock, the person I always see standing beside him with adoring eyes. While occasionally she gives him a gentle nudge, everyone knows she always has his back.

Laina and I want to personally thank Senator ROBERTS and Franki, who have embraced us with hospitality and kindness since arriving ourselves in Washington, D.C., some 4 years ago. They have shown us what it is to be an ambassador for our State. From Christmas gatherings at the White House to farm bill hearings in a barn, they have shown what servant leadership looks like, representing our State with dignity and grace.

Senator ROBERTS is the only person in American history to have his portrait in both the House Agriculture Committee and the Senate Agriculture Committee hearing rooms.

Senator ROBERTS has had a hand in writing eight farm bills. He has been on a Federal congressional agriculture committee for 40 years running. Some of his greatest accomplishments include those eight farm bills, and I am going to reference two of them.

The Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996, which he was the primary author and chairman, this became known as the Freedom to Farm bill.

Chairman ROBERTS has often told the story—I have heard this maybe once or twice—of sitting on the tongue of the wagon of a farmer in Dodge City, Kansas, with all of his farm experts, and his good friend, Leon Torline said: PAT, we all need freedom to farm.

Sure enough, this agriculture policy gave producers the freedom to plant

crops based on market indicators, not Federal Government set-aside policies.

Next, I will reference the first farm bill I participated in, the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, on which he was the primary author as chairman. Probably most notably, this farm bill received more votes than any farm bill in modern history, with 87 in favor.

I would like to also mention the 2016 National Bioengineered Food Disclosure Act. This Federal legislation created standards for labeling food with ingredients derived from biotechnology.

Then his 2000 Agriculture Risk Protection Act reformed national crop insurance and led to its widespread use today.

Finally, I will mention Senator ROBERTS was always the leader in bio-agro security legislation. As chairman of the Senate Armed Services Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, Senator ROBERTS chaired the first Senate hearing on the threat to our Nation's food supply.

I will close with this. Though Senator ROBERTS will always be known for his wit, being an entertaining speaker, and a great interview, his actions and his accomplishments will always speak louder than any of his words.

He and Franki have been tremendous ambassadors for agriculture, for Kansas, and for America. They have climbed many mountains, and they have planted the flag.

Senator ROBERTS, semper fi. May God richly bless you, Franki, and your family.

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#### HONORING GENERAL ROBERT HINSON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BACON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to retired Lieutenant General Robert C. Hinson, U.S. Air Force, the founding executive director of the National Strategic Research Institute at the University of Nebraska, who recently announced his retirement at the end of this year.

General Hinson retires after more than a half century of highly distinguished service supporting the missions of the Department of Defense, commercial industry, and the University of Nebraska.

General Robert Hinson's leadership and dedication to the principles of freedom have been indispensable for America's national security interest. He began his career by enlisting in the United States Air Force. After spending 1 year as an administrative specialist, he received a commission from Officer Training School in 1971.

General Hinson retired after 33 years of exemplary Active-Duty military service. Over the course of his career, he distinguished himself as an outstanding military leader commanding